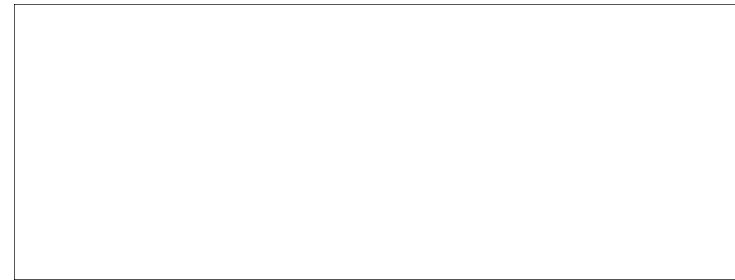


THE BRIDGE

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MUSIC MINISTRY

Dr. Felton, in his sermon in view of a call, told of the mighty redwood trees that grow to enormous heights yet have shallow roots intertwining with other redwoods to give them strength. I listened to that sermon and analogy while sitting in a hospital room in Owensboro, Kentucky, while Lois was treated for broken bones in her leg and foot. We were in western Kentucky to attend the 150th anniversary of First Baptist Church in Greenville, a church I served for 16 years before coming to Frankfort. The analogy Dr. Felton used could not have been more poignant as we were receiving messages of love and support from two congregations, as well as family members, while going through Lois' trauma. I was struck by how much strength I found in the roots of my faith families. These two congregations are separated by some 165 miles yet have so much in common. Dr. Bob Browning grew up in that church, Tom Midkiff's father was the pastor for 15 of the 16 years I was there,

and Rick and Brenda Wilson have ties to that church as well. I was, and continue to be, moved by the profound love expressed to Lois and me by our faith family. We were experiencing pain, heartache at missing the worship service we had planned, disappointed we were causing others anxiety and inconvenience, and the fear of not knowing what the immediate future held. Yet the strength of the roots of our faith family were holding tight to us and keeping us upright. There's an old gospel song that says "I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God" that came to my mind on that Sunday. I am beyond words grateful to be part of this fellowship of believers called FBC Frankfort, and Lois and I both are eternally grateful for your love and support. We're glad our roots are wrapped with yours and with our Lord!

~Richard

THE BRIDGE

JULY 2019



DR. KEITH FELTON ACCEPTS THE CALL TO SERVE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AS SENIOR PASTOR

Read Dr. Felton's letter to the congregation on page 5.

What's Inside

- 2 Staff
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
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In Memorium

Mike Luscher
May 24, 2019

New Members

By Letter
Mike Parks and
Shirley Boatman-Parks
June 2, 2019

PASSPORT

Our Youth attended PASSPORTMISSIONS in Virginia and our Children attended PASSPORTKIDS in Tennessee this year.

The theme for both weeks, FEARLESS, was based on the 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 scripture: "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love."



Students explored what Paul meant when he called us all to live a faith based in love and not fear and how when we are FEARLESS, we can LOVE MORE and FEAR LESS. What a great message for our young people AND our church!



DESSERT SOCIAL

CHURCH DESSERT SOCIAL

Wednesday, July 31, 6:00 p.m.

Join us Wednesday, July 31, 6:00 p.m. for a church social in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dessert to share as we come together in thanks and fellowship! The church will provide drinks.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5 5:00 pm FIRST FRIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT—Lakeview Park	6
7 9:15 am HADDEN RECEPTION 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship	8	9	10 5:30 pm Formations Preview Class 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	11 9:00 am ROMEOs	12	13 5:00 pm TBG Christmas in July
14 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship 4:00 pm Book Club	15	16	17 5:30 pm Formations Preview Class 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	18 9:00 am ROMEOs	19	20 9:00 am Clinic
21 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship 12:00 pm Finance Team Meeting	22 9:30 am Soup Kitchen	23	24 5:30 pm Formations Preview Class 6:00 pm BUSINESS MEETING 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	25 9:00 am ROMEOs	26	27
28 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship	29	30	31 5:30 pm Formations Preview Class 6:00 pm CHURCH SOCIAL 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir			

THE BARNABAS GROUP

July 13 is the "Christmas in July" cookout at the Carpenter's house, 515 Leawood Drive. Doug and I will provide the food. Attendees please bring an unwrapped new toy or book to the party to help restock the FBC toy closet. Their biggest needs right now are gifts for 6 - 12 year olds: footballs, basketballs, remote control vehicles, and craft items. We will gather at 5:00 for appetizers and visiting. We will eat around 6:00. There will be a 'craziest Hawaiian shirt' contest, a 'best summer hat' contest, 'fanciest flip flops/sandals' contest, etc. You get the idea. The fashion contest and results will follow the meal. BE PREPARED TO HAVE FUN!! Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office to let us know you're coming.

There will be no scheduled event in August, but we have BIG plans for September. Last year, First United Methodist invited us to their September gathering, so we are returning the invitation. The "Living Life and Loving It" group from FUMC will join us for supper at 5:00 on Thursday, September 19. The vocal group, Rahab's Rope, will have a concert in the sanctuary at 6:00. The whole church is invited to the concert!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at TheBarnabasGroupFBC@gmail.com.

~Mona Carpenter



I have only known Dr. Keith Felton for a few months, but I know him well enough to know you have made a wise choice in calling him to be our next pastor. I admire his commitment to God's mission for the church, his concern for the "least of these," and his desire to continue his own education and spiritual formation and leading the church to continue on the spiritual journey. I appreciate Keith's sense of humor, kindness, and passion. Thank you to our pastor search committee for their thorough and hard work. For whatever time I have left as your interim minister of Spiritual Formation, I am ready to help in any way I can, as we transition to a new phase in our church's ministry.

We will find new and old ways to carry out God's mission, but this is who we are and will continue to be:

- "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9 (NRSV)
- "You are the body of Christ and individually members of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NRSV)

And this is what we do and will continue to do:

- "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42 (NRSV)
- "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27 (NRSV)

May God above, Jesus beside, and the Holy Spirit within, bless and guide our pastor and our church as we seek to follow God's will now and in the future.

Blessings,
Keith Stillwell

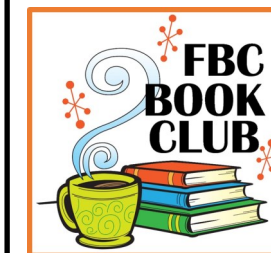
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our combined Summer Sunday School continues this month. Join us in fellowship hall on Sunday mornings at 9:50 a.m. for this video-based study, *The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere*, through July 21.

FORTY DAYS OF PRAYER FOR THE LIBERATION OF AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF SLAVERY

Simmons College of Kentucky has published a new resource by author and Baptist Seminary of Kentucky student Cheri Mills supporting observance of the Angela Project. The Angela Project recognizes the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first slave on American soil, named Angela. BSK asks us to join Simmons College of Kentucky on this 40 day journey. Available on Amazon.com or a limited number of copies available in the church office for \$10.00

For more information visit: <https://bsk.edu/40-days-of-prayer2/>



FBC BOOK CLUB
Sunday, July 14
4:00 p.m.

Our next FBC Book Club meeting will be Sunday, July 14, 4:00 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board, and join us for a sweet treat

as we discuss Amy Luscher Smith's *My Faith Sparkles: Memoir of a Cancer Survivor*.

About the book: When cancer happens...knowledge, hope, and support are the best medicine.

Have you ever endured something so deeply personal that you wonder if you're the only person to have that experience? Something so horribly radical it caused you to question things that previously seemed solid and real? Like your body? Your mind? Your future? Your beliefs?

This book is for those who have had such an experience—an experience the world around us considered to be a tragedy, like cancer. It's a book for those who have wondered, "Am I the only one?" It is for those who have faith, want faith, need faith, and even question their faith in a God who will not leave us to face tragedy alone.

If you have not yet purchased a copy of *My Faith Sparkles*, we have them available in the church office for \$15.

"Amy's transparency, honesty, and faith are refreshing...If you are searching for light on a dark path, you must read this book!" -Dr. Robert F. Browning

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Office Manager
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Linda McKinley
Organist

Lois Summers
Pianist

Anthony Hager
Building Superintendent

Seldon Jackson
Assistant Custodian



5:30 pm - Formations Preview
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting, Clinic, Clothes Closet
6:30 pm - Sanctuary Choir



First Friday Fun Night

Our *second* First Friday Family Fun Night is July 5. The entire church family is invited to come share an evening of fellowship from 5 - 8 p.m.

We have the Hancock Pavilion, the large pavilion next to the playground and splash pad, reserved at Lakeview Park. We will have outdoor games for both kids and adults to play.

Since this is summer in Kentucky and we got rained out last month, our back-up plan is to have our Fun Night at the church in the Fellowship Hall and Nexus Room. We will still be able to play some of the "outdoor" games inside and we will have board and card games for all ages to enjoy.

The church will be providing pizza and drinks. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, that would be wonderful. We have a sign-up sheet on the landing to help us get a general idea of how many people to expect.

Children's Artwork

The Creation story panels painted for Children's Day 2019 are now on display in the 3rd floor hallway outside of the 3rd-5th grade classroom. If you get a chance, I would encourage you to see these. The children did such a wonderful job!

~Jenny



Hello, folks!

Last week our youth had the opportunity to attend Passport Missions Camp at Averett University in Danville, Virginia. Huge thanks to our two chaperones, Makayla Hawkins and Adell Kemper, for donating their entire week to making the trip a success! Our campers dove into several projects such as helping clean and renovate a pregnancy center, move pieces of furniture around in a home, and even spent time with impoverished children. Likewise, they also participated in different activities on-campus including daily worship services, Bible studies with other youth groups, and personal, private devotionals.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **Marcus' Move-It Monday's** have kicked off as a way to get some exercise and fitness into your week! Every Monday morning, from 11:30AM-1:00PM you can expect to do a yoga session and workout tailored to your personal fitness level. Youth should bring a lunch with them for after the workout.
- I'm looking into a **SERVICE PROJECT** at the EQMC, as well as a youth **LOCK-IN** later in the month! We'll also begin our **NEW DISCUSSION SERIES** in Sunday school, "The Body of Scripture (Pt. 2)".
- I am currently securing volunteers and chaperones for events with our youth. If you would prayerfully consider getting involved with our youth events - such as with EQMC or a lock-in- please contact me by phone or email and I'll answer any questions you may have!

Peace be with you!
~Marcus

»FROM THE
Senior Pastor»

I want to start by saying how much I appreciate the work of the Pastor Search Committee – Dwight Lovan, Amy Smith, Stephen Mason, Vickie Mitchell, Dan Shouse, Erica Galyon, Beth Keith, Sam McKown and Julia Rhorer. They served with integrity, privacy, devotedness and a commitment to represent you in the best way possible. Will you make sure to express your thanks to these individuals when you see them? What an excellent team!

I am grateful for all of you who came for the Saturday Town Hall Meeting and Reception for my family. Thank you to those who prepared refreshments. It was much appreciated after a period of questions and dialogue. I enjoyed our conversation in the town hall format and hope to continue that type of healthy church-wide discussion.

I find it difficult to describe all the different emotions I had Sunday, June 9. It was a bit overwhelming at times when I found myself thinking about our shared history. FBC provided my first staff position in 1999. You helped me with seminary costs. You ordained me to the Gospel ministry in 2001. You brought me back into the fold as Minister of Missions in 2016. Then, on Sunday, almost twenty years after I first darkened the doors, I was preaching in view of a call to be the Senior Pastor. I not only saw all of you in the pews, but in my heart I saw many faithful FBC saints who are now cheering us on in the heavenly 'cloud of witnesses.'

Thank you for this opportunity, and my prayer is you will see my appreciation through dedication, actions and care for our family of faith. I want you to know at the end of the day, this entire search for a minister and weekend of bringing me on as Pastor is actually not about me – it is about us. Church is a social enterprise. Christianity is not a 'Lone Ranger' activity. It is all about community. God designed it this way. The Apostle Paul beautifully described it as a body with many parts having various and vital functions. Yes, my role is important, but so is yours. The healthiest church is one where every member is serving and working so the entire body can reach its full potential. One of our goals should be to have 100% of our membership fulfilling a role in our ministries and missions.

Thank you, again, for calling me to serve as Senior Pastor.

In Christ,
Keith
Psalm 115.1

P.S. I am scheduled to officially begin as Pastor July 9. I am attending General Assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in Birmingham, AL, from June 16 – 21. I am taking two weeks (last week of June and first week of July) to rest and recalibrate before I start July 9. I appreciate this time to recharge.

Reception of Thanks

We give great thanks to Dr. Steve Hadden, Interim Pastor, for the ministerial leadership and love he has given First Baptist Church this past year. Please join us in showing Dr. Hadden our appreciation and thanks.

Breakfast Reception
Sunday, July 7
9:15 - 9:45
Fellowship Hall

